slowing down of growth in textile exports and export targets for 1997-98 for the textile sector were discussed. In the second meeting held on 1-5-97, issues concerning the new EXIM policy were discussed.

(c) Garment exports during the last three years have been as follows:

Year	Value in US Million Dollars (Provisional)
1994-95	4433.83
1995-96	4453.31
1996-97	4762.10

Source: Apparel Export Promotion Council

The export figures for the current year *i.e.*, April, 1997 are not yet available.

(d) In order to boost the exports of textiles, Government have been taking a number of steps, which include encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets; fairs and exhibitions; enabling import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production; special arrangements for duty free import of raw materials for export production; ensuring increased availability of export credit etc.

Loss of Jobs of Textiles Workers of NTC

3480. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 67,000 textiles workers of NTC are likely to lose their jobs;

(b) if so, details thereof NTC—Unit-wise;

(c) the circumstances that led to such a situation; and

(d) the steps, if any, taken/ contemplated by Government to stop/ contain it?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (d) The mills under NTC have been incurring losses due to obsolete machinery, excess manpower, acute shortage of working capital etc. On account of their net worth erosion, 8 out of the 9 subsidiary corporations of NTC have been referred to and declared sick by the BIFR.

Government approved in May, 1995 a revised Turn Around Plan involving modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable mills by merger and coverage of 32,900 employees under VRS. The funds for modernisation were to come from the sale of surplus lands and assets. This package has been placed before the BIFR which has found the same not viable in respect of four subsidiaries, namely, NTC(Guj.), NTC(UP), NTC(MP) and NTC(WBAB&O) Ltds. due to their net worth not becoming positive in the stipulated period of 10 years unless Government loans and interest thereon are waived. The BIFR has, therefore, issued show cause notices for winding up these four subsidiaries. In respect of the remaining four ssubsidiaries, namely, NTC(APKK&M), NTC(MN), NTC(SM) and NTC(DP&R) Ltd., the BIFR has

approved rehabilitation schemes seeking additional concessions from the Government. It may be added that NTC is implementing a Voluntary Retirement Scheme to rationalise the surplus work force. Since the scheme is purely voluntary with additional financial benefits, no workers of NTC have been forced to leave.

The Turn Around Plan as indicated above could not be implemented till date due to non-approval by BIFR and also the reluctance of the State Government of Maharashtra in approving the sale of surplus lands of NTC mills located in Mumbai, from where more than 80% of the sale proceeds are estimated. The NTC has in the above background reviewed the unit-wise viability of NTC mills, keeping in view the concessions agreed to by the Government in 1995 and the concept of net worth becoming positive. The report of the NTC is under consideration of the Government.

Incomplete Irrigation Projects in the Country

3481. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the major and medium irrigation projects which were started during Third to Eight Five Year Plans in the Country and which are still incomplete with details of each of such irrigation projects, State in which located, estimated area of irrigation after completion and the Five Year Plan in which it was started;

(b) the total amount spent on these projects by the Central and State Governments;

(c) The reasons for non-completion of each of these projects; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to complete these irrigation projects within a time frame?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) A Statement giving details of on-going major & medium irrigation projects in the various States is enclosed. (*See* below)

(b) The total amount spent on these project upto 3/95 is Rs. 32580.85 crores.

(c) The reasons for non-completion of these projects are paucity of funds, problems in land acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement of project oustees, delay in clearance of the project from forest and environment angle, inadequate investigation and changes in Scope of Project, Contractual Problems etc.

(d) Irrigation is a State subject and irrigation projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Government from their own resources. The Central Assistance is released in the form of block loans and grants not tied to any sector of development of project. However, in order to provide Central Loan Assistance to the State Governments for early completion of irrigation projects, the Union Government has launched Rural Infrastructure Development Programme in 1995-96 and Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme in 1996-97.